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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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5. The equipment, all of which can be replaced from Czech production if necessary, consists of automatic lathes (Skoda, Index Sennette), multiple lathes, drills, thread-cutting machines and a great number of automatic machines producing tire valves, screws, cotter pins, concave rivets, etc. The foundry is provided with about 25 Polak die-casting presses for pressure-casting brass and aluminum. The tool shop is able to produce all forging dies and molds for pressure casting. The recently built foundry is larger than the plant requires and is equipped with good machines for core production and with machines for forming complicated molds for casting fixtures. The plant also has a large polishing room and galvanizing shops for chrome-plating and nickel-plating the fixtures. Although the tire valve parts are manufactured on automatic machines, 40,000 valves per day must be assembled by hand. Therefore, Ing. Smrcek in Prague is attempting to design a machine to mechanize this part of the production.

6. The production program involves bathroom and kitchen plumbing fixtures, screws and other things which can be lathe processed, and the production of automobile and bicycle tire valves. Myjava exports the fixtures and screws to Holland, Sweden, Austria and the Balkans, and it supplies 80 percent of the home consumption, but screw delivery terms range up to three years.

7. Myjava is sound technologically and organizationally, but it is in very bad shape in so far as designing is concerned and is, therefore, not in a position to compete seriously with foreign industry. Many export orders have been returned or cancelled because of poor designing caused by a lack of designers. Imperfect fixtures have caused immense losses; 80 percent of the radiator valves are defective. The plant also desperately needs electrolytic polishing equipment to replace the laborious manual polishing method, but this problem is one to be found throughout the CSR. The Kovofin National Enterprise in Prague, under Ing. Kopeck, is attempting to find a solution to the problem. Myjava has no military importance.

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* [] Comment: The Stara Tura fine mechanics national enterprise was also formerly part of the Vah River Machine Works. []

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** [] Comment: The so-called "Myjava Movement", a Communist propaganda move to create greater efficiency among the young workers, started at this plant. However, an illegal "Myjava Movement", which has led to the murder of a leading Communist in the summer of 1949, is also gaining momentum. This plant may form a core of resistance to the current Communist regime.

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*** [] Comment: Samalik transferred one-half million Kcs of his personal, secret account into the new money at the time of the 1945 currency reform by paying his outstanding bills in the old currency [] Comment: and apparently collecting from his debtors in the new money. However, the party court judged him not guilty of a crime and released him. Even before February 1948 there were different standards for old and new members, as well as for non-members, and when the party court had decided even a guilty man was innocent, the official courts did not dare to countermand their findings.

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